Department News

Upcoming Presentations
   Check out the Biology Seminar Series web page at http://www.ewu.edu/x64410.xml. You’ll find a schedule of upcoming and tentative seminars, links to flyers, and speaker biographies … along with contact information to get more details. Next presentation: October 9.

Comings & Goings
   Carissa Gusman, secretary senior, leaves the department to attend graduate school at Portland State University. Her plans are to pursue a degree in counseling with a career goal of becoming a couples counselor. Lisa Williams, an EWU employee since 1988, comes into the position September 8.
   Brian Sardella, assistant professor of biology, has moved on from Eastern to pursue other research and teaching opportunities.
   Dana Stroud, research associate, was hired by Fisheries to conduct a grant project funded by the Colville Tribe to analyze fish in the San Poil River. The project is expected to conclude by January 31, 2010.

Faculty Grants
   Luis Matos, quarterly faculty in biology, has a grant from the University of Florida for research on the sigma virus in drosophila.
   Heather McKean, senior lecturer of biology, secured a continuation grant for Math/Science Partnership in association with ESD 101 in Spokane.
   Allan Scholz, professor of biology, received two grants from the Kalispel Tribe: one for a Box Canyon survey and one for bull trout research on the Pend Oreille River.

2008-09 Graduation and Honors

Mark Paluch, graduating senior, was the Biology Department’s nominee for a Frances B. Huston award. Only four students from our college’s thirteen departments are selected to receive this honor. Selection is based on demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and service.

Honorees for 2008-09 Outstanding Biology and Natural Science Education seniors are:

Biology
   Christopher Adair
   Samuel Beck
   Jonathan Braun
   Chad Douglas
   Thomas Groesbeck
   Jennifer Hastings
   Michelle Livengood
   Mark Paluch
   Elmera Peyman
   Cleome Rowe
   Kimberly Venetz

Natural Science Education
   Katherine Bass

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Graduation (cont. from page 1)
Biology majors graduating in 2008-09:

Master's Graduates
Jillian Hernandez  Tonya Vanover
Christopher Moan  Robin Voigt
Claudine Richardson-Fraser

Bachelor's Graduates

Biology:
Christopher Adair  Heath Gregg
Theresa Albertson  Brandee Gregory
Kaci Bailey  Thomas Groesbeck
Navjot Bains  Michele Gunseor
Navroop Bains  Amelia Harper
Michael Baker  Jennifer Hastings
Walter Baker  Amy Hemenway
Margaret Barker  Brett Hensley
Shawn Bechtol  Erin Hensley
Samuel Beck  Heather Hoberg
Cole Boboth  Pei-Yao Hung
Chelsea Boge  Alyson Hunt
Crystal Bowlen  Meghan Ison
Jonathan Braun  Daniel Johnson
Whitney Brown  Sarah Kennedy
Colin Buckingham  Anne Kizerian
Alicia Caldejon  Kumiko Koyama
Kasandra Cantlon  Nicholas Landerholm
Victoria Cardenas  Nam Le
Jennifer Carrano  Marvin Lehman
Nathanael Cavender  Michelle Livengood
Carolyn Connelly  Joseph Loehmer
Carrie Conners  Dava Lomax
Trinity Coxon  Joseph Longworth
Sonia Crisman  Giancarlo Maddaloni
Jessica Crosby  Kevin Mahoney (BAE)
Joanne Culton  Tara Marshbanks
Karileyy Darnell  Erica Martinson
Amanda Doll  Daelyn McCuistion
Chad Douglas  Lucille Morgan
Alicia Dunlap  Ayaka Mori
Walker Duval  Lindsay Myrick
Danielle Edwards  Ambartsum Ogano
Jennifer Eller  Christopher Olshavsky
Amber Ellis  Jennifer Olson
Chad Eylander  William Page
Sheila Faust  Mark Paluch
Kayla Fowlkes  Jennifer Parel
Shelby Fufts  Tyler Parsons
Terry Gordon  Elmera Peyman

Janaya Pfeifer  Sarah Studeman
Kristen Ponce  Gemuel Sumagpang
Lindsey Rewinkel  Rachael Sumagpang
Brandy Reynecke  Meredith Thompson
Cleome Rowe  Eilidh Thyl
Drew Satter  Shannon Truitt
Jason Schend  Chih-Chieh Tung
Daniel Schneider  Jinkie Underwood
Lisa Schneider  Kimberly Venetz
Samuel Shelton  Jennifer Ventress
Michael Shepherd  Jessica Vernon
Vitaly Sizov  Christina Villa
Kevin Skinfill  Katie Weaver
Kris Smith  Shayley Webb
Ryann Smith  Kira White
Nicholas Snider  David Wilcox
Denise Solis  Kalen Williams
Sondra Spevack  Theresa Wood
Terence Stephens  Aaron Yoshida
Heather Stout  Jacob Zarate
Dana Stroud

Natural Science
Education:
Marty Ahmann  Jessica Colvig
Katherine Bass  Mary Forrey
Cameron Burns  Ricky Poon
Joseph Carlson  Jennifer Scott
Darlea Chatburn  Allison Suarez
Christina Christopherson  Leah Vetsch

Congratulations Graduates!

Engaging Young Women in Science
Biology faculty, staff, and students offered their time and expertise on July 15 to workshops at EWU as part of WSU’s Young Women’s Summer Science Camp Program. Twenty 12- and 13-year-old young women went through a class on forensic entomology with Luis Matos, quarterly faculty in biology, and a forensic anatomy class with Thomas Hancock, associate professor of biology, and Cassandra Pharr, graduate student in biology. Assisting with set-up and coordination were Joanna Joyner-Matos, assistant professor of biology, and David French and Russell Matheson, instructional & classroom support technicians. Camp directors noted that “this was the best field trip to a campus we have taken over the past 15 years” with each lab being "well coordinated and very engaging.” ♦
Wagner Poster Wins Prize

Katie Wagner, graduate student in biology, was awarded the best graduate student poster award at the American Fisheries Society WA-BC Chapter Annual General Meeting in Shelton, Washington, April 20-23. This award was accompanied by a cash prize of $600 which will be used to support Katie’s research. The poster, which is co-authored by faculty mentor Thomas Hancock, is titled “Swimming Performance Measures of Reintroduced Coho Stocks Subjected to Greater Migration Distances in the Columbia Basin.” The abstract of the poster is:

Coho salmon (Oncorhynchus kisutch) have been extirpated from the mid/upper Columbia River and Snake River drainages since the 1980s. In an effort to rehabilitate these stocks, the Yakama Nation has been reintroducing coho into several tributaries of the Columbia, including the Yakima, Wenatchee, and Entiat Rivers. The Nez Perce Tribe has been reintroducing coho into the Clearwater River. The basal stock of coho used for these rehabilitation efforts primarily originate from the Eagle Creek National Fish Hatchery in the lower Columbia. The reintroduced stocks are required to migrate much greater distances than the basal stock, and we are analyzing the basal and reintroduced stocks to understand whether traits are being selected for to overcome the physical difficulty of a longer migration distance. We are comparing juvenile hatchery coho derived from returnees from the Entiat, Clearwater, and Eagle Creek. We are measuring critical swimming speed (Ucrit) and cost of locomotion using a Blazka swim tunnel respirometer, along with morphological and physiological characteristics. Preliminary Ucrit measures differ between the basal and reintroduced stocks and reflect the differences seen between lower and upper Fraser River coho respectively, which vary dramatically in their migration distances.
Hollister-Stier Textbook Assistance Awards

The following students earned textbook awards for Spring quarter:
   Alicia Caldejon
   Thania Montero-Abreu
   Clinton Slovarp

Congratulations! Thank you, Hollister-Stier, for your generosity in helping our students.

Watch for the Fall 2009 Biology News ... Field Botany Excursions, homecoming activities, seminars, alumni updates, and more.

Contact Us

Biology News is a quarterly publication of the Eastern Washington University Department of Biology. To contribute items of interest – news, features, alumni updates – please contact:

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